

Employment Programs

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

Program Description:

Developmental Disabilities Administration

Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) supports employment and day services, including child development services, through contracts and partnerships with county government. The counties select and contract with service providers and directly provide many of the support services that strengthen the community infrastructure.

• Employment Services

Ongoing support services and training for eligible persons with paid jobs, including individual or group options, in the community.

Individual Supported Employment

Placement and follow-up services necessary to help persons with developmental disabilities obtain and continue integrated, living wage employment in the community. This may include job development, support to the employee's supervisors and/or peer workers, on-the-job training, modification of work site or tasks, employment retention and follow along support, and development of career and promotional opportunities.

Group Supported Employment

These services are a part of a pathway to individual employment. These are supervised employment and training activities in regular business and industry settings for groups of no more than eight workers with disabilities. Typical program examples include enclaves, mobile crews, and other business-based programs employing small groups of workers with disabilities in integrated employment.

• Community Inclusion

Community Inclusion supports provide opportunities to learn, practice and apply skills that promote greater independence and inclusion in the community. These services are individualized and provided in typical community settings. The ideal outcome is skill development and natural relationships with other community members so paid supports are no longer needed.

• Child Development Services

Emphasize early intervention services designed to meet the needs of a specific child. They include therapy, education, family counseling, and training, and are provided to children until age three when they become eligible for services through public schools or other community programs.

• Technical Assistance

Provides assessment and consultation to the service provider, client and their support system to identify and address existing barriers to employment and helps to find and maintain jobs for individuals.

Highlights in 2019 – Value Based Payment, closure of Prevocational services, continued increase in percentage working, continue to rank #1 nationally

Quality Assurance Oversight – Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Commission for Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, Office of the State Auditor, Contract Monitoring

Stakeholders – Participants, Counties, Service providers, Advocacy organizations, State Department Children, Youth and Families, DSHS Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, School districts, State Office of the Superintendent of Public

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